

*Tuesday 17 April 2018*

Dear Middle School Parents, welcome to a busy Term 2.

### **Cross Country**

All students from Prep-6 will be participating in the school cross country. This will be held at Greythorn Park on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Children are encouraged to wear their house colours. Refer to the Compass event for more information.

### **Year 4 Camp**

In week 3, from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May, the year 4s will head off to Mt Evelyn to attend their first school camp. During their stay at Camp Oasis they will participate in a range of outdoor education activities and also ride "Puffing Billy".

### **Life Skills**

The Life Skills program is continuing at Greythorn for the year 3 students. It is a 5 week program beginning in Week 1. The program aims to develop physical, social and emotional skills, empower individuals with life skills and foster mindfulness. Year 3 parents will receive information after the first week.

### **Literacy**

Independent Reading sessions will continue to cover the skills of predicting, questioning, clarifying, visualising and summarising. Reciprocal teaching will be introduced in the second half of the term which involves teacher-directed small discussion groups. In Writing, our focus will be on persuasive and procedural genres as well as a writers' workshop.

### **Mathematics**

The areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability will be covered. Weekly Mathletics tasks will be assigned to be completed at home. These tasks will complement the areas we are teaching in class. Please encourage your child to talk to their teacher if they need assistance with a task.

### **NAPLAN**

This involves year 3 students and will occur over three days from Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The tests include Writing (40 minutes), Reading (45 minutes), Language conventions (40 minutes), Numeracy (45 minutes)

### **Science**

The middle school Term 2 Science unit is "Melting Moments" focusing on Chemical Science. Through hands on investigations students will explore how everyday items in solid and liquid form are influenced by temperature.

### **Wellbeing**

The Wellbeing curriculum program will include a focus on school values, our buddy program for the year 4s, class awards, bucket filling, cyber safety and kinder visits for the year 3 students.

## Reminders for term 2

- **Compass** - Please check [Compass](#) regularly for information regarding upcoming events and permission/payment forms. Student absences must be recorded.
- **Start of Day** - For a smooth and efficient start to the day it is important to be at school at 8:50am for a 9:00am start. If you are late to school please visit the office first to sign in and collect a 'late' pass. If you need to collect your child early during the day, please visit the office first to sign your child out and collect an 'early leaving' pass. These must be given to the child's teacher.
- **iPads** - Year 4s are to ensure their iPads are updated regularly and appropriate amounts of storage is available for ongoing use. iPads are to be fully charged each day.
- **Homework** –Homework contracts and reading journals are to be completed weekly. These are to be checked and signed.
- **Hats** – Hats must be worn every day to school for outside play until the end of April so please continue to support the SunSmart program.
- **Lost Property** – The lost property cupboard is located in building 3 just inside the Prep doors at the top of the ramp.
- **Rubbish Free Lunch** - In an endeavour to cut down on the amount of rubbish in the school yard we would appreciate if students could have as little packaging as possible in their lunchboxes.
- **Allergies and Anaphylaxis in the classroom** - Please be mindful that there may be students in your child's class with specific food allergies. Although Greythorn is not a 'nut free school' we do ask that you consider other children and not pack nut based foods.
- **Fruit/Vegetable Snack** - As part of our Health program, all students are encouraged to bring a small serve of fresh fruit or vegetables each day (e.g. a few carrot sticks, an apple, bag of grapes). This will be eaten in the classroom after lunch. This healthy snack is in addition to the normal playlunch snack. Please ensure that water bottles are brought daily.
- **Tissues** - As we move into the cooler months, classes use more tissues. Please provide a box of tissues for use in the classroom. Thank you if you have already sent one to school. If your child is showing cold and flu symptoms, please consider that home is the best place for your child to recover and reduce the risk of spreading germs.

If you have any questions during the term please don't hesitate to contact your class teacher.

Thank you from the Middle School Teachers

**Year 3** – Ms Catia Durante (Room 19 - Class 319)

Mr Max Mays (Room 18 - Class 318)

Ms Rourke (Room 17 - Class 317)

Miss Tali Mason (Room 16 - Class 316)

**Year 4** – Mrs Rebecca Birch (Room 13 - Class 413)

Ms Tara Kapoor (Room 12 - Class 412)

Miss Mary Haidamous (Room 11 - Class 411)